



**Braintree & Bocking
URBAN DISTRICT**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

FOR THE YEAR

1966

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

W. H. Root, Printer, Halstead

BRAINTREE AND BOCKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

S. F. BAYLEY, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. G. THURSTON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

M. CRISP, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (to 23/9/66)
K. F. CUTTING, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H. (to 27/5/66)
D. HARPER, M.A.P.H.I. (from 1/12/66)

Authorised Meat Inspector

D. GRAY

Clerical Assistant

Miss E. M. SAUNDERS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
Town Hall, Braintree.
October, 1967.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information my annual report for the year 1966.

It contains as usual the vital statistics and statistics of work done at the various Clinics run by the Essex County Council. For the latter I am indebted to Dr. Miller Wood the Area Medical Officer.

Vital Statistics

There has been a slow steady increase in the population over the past 20 years usually in the region of 200-300 per year.

The estimated figure for 1966 is 21,720 an increase of 550 on 1965.

In 1966, 415 live births were registered giving a corrected birth rate of 18.9 per 1,000 population which is slightly over the national figure.

The corrected death rate was 9.4 per 1,000 compared with the England and Wales figure of 11.7.

The Infantile Mortality figure was 19.3 per 1,000 live births which is very close to the national figure of 19.

The 8 infant deaths were due to Prematurity 4, Hydrocephalus 1, Acute cortizone deficiency 1, Acute Bronchopneumonia 1 and Asphyxia 1.

Analysis of the table of deaths from all causes shows the usual pattern that the majority of deaths were due to either malignant diseases (57) or cardio vascular diseases (103).

Notifiable Infectious Disease

1966 was a slack year for infectious disease, only 35 cases were recorded, the lowest since 1960, when there were 29. As usual the list is dominated by Measles of which there were 23. In 1965 we had 455. With Measles we usually find that a year with many cases is followed by a year with few.

Environmental Hygiene

Clean food, an adequate supply of pure water, adequate sewage works and more houses are all matters of vital concern to the Public Health and Housing Committees and I think if they look back over the work done in 1966 they have cause for reasonable satisfaction.

The new Codham water works although it suffered from its fair share of growing pains has achieved its object of providing an adequate supply of pure and softened water to the public.

The extensions to the Bocking Sewage works were operational throughout the year and plans were being prepared to extend and improve the Braintree works.

More houses, i.e., 113 were completed by the Council in 1966 than in 1965, when the total was 84 and a further 220 were built by private enterprise.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47.

It was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's order to move to hospital one old lady who was living alone under poor conditions.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and help and to my fellow officers both within and outside the Public Health Department for their co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,

Town Hall, Braintree.

October, 1967.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BRAINTREE AND
BOCKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year 1966.

The Report follows the customary pattern, being mainly statistical, and in terms of the number of visits made is comparable with that of the previous year. The department was short of staff for the greater part of 1966 and it is obvious that those remaining put in a greater effort; this is commendable, especially when one remembers that during the same year negotiated salary increases were withheld because of the national financial crisis.

With regard to food hygiene, the number of visits was doubled and it can be reiterated that the standard of food hygiene in the area is, on the whole good, as judged by our present standards, but whilst the use of refrigerated counters for cooked meats, the exclusion of dogs from food shops and similar matters are left to the individual trader then I think our standards are open to question. It is often said that the customer should demand better standards and many of course do so, but far too many are indifferent.

The number of animals slaughtered in 1966 was about the same as in the previous year but much less was condemned. Condemnations for tuberculosis were negligible and confined to pigs.

The observance of hygienic conditions in slaughterhouses continued to exercise the minds and occupy the time of your inspectors and will continue to do so whilst we have small units comprised of old buildings, which, although technically complying with the Slaughterhouse Regulations, nevertheless present many problems in hygienic management.

Thirteen houses were dealt with by way of demolition orders or undertakings and represents part of the final stage of the original clearance scheme as modified during the past few years

by the inclusion of houses which have deteriorated since the inception of the programme and the exclusion of a few properties which owners have seen fit to repair and improve. The number of improvement grants made in 1966 was higher than for many years, a trend contrary to the national one, and included several houses where occupiers had requested the Council to take compulsory action.

I wish to thank Members for their support and to acknowledge the help and co-operation of the Health Department staff and of fellow officers in other Departments.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

S. F. BAYLEY,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	6,811
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	21,720
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books	...	...	...	7,562
Rateable value	...	...	...	£993,374
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£4,007

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	... 389	200	189	
Illegitimate	... 26	16	10	
Total live births	... 415			
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	19.1
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	6.3
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.99	...	...	...	18.9
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	...	...	...	17.7

STILL BIRTHS

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	... 5	5	—	
Illegitimate	... —	—	—	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	11.9
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	...	...	...	15.4
Total live and still births—420				

Infant Deaths

Deaths of infants under 1 year—

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	... 6	4	2	
Illegitimate	... 2	1	1	
Total infant deaths	... 8			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	19.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	15.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	76.9
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	12.0
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	21.4
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	19.0

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS

	Total	Male	Female	
	238	131	107	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	10.9
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.86	...	...	...	9.4
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	...	...	11.7

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1966

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

					Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	1	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	16	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	17	14
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	10	14
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	30	16
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	—	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	10	8
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	8	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	13
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	6	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	9	19
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—
All Causes					131	107

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—

(i) **Braintree**—Essex County Health Services Clinic, Coggeshall Road:—

		By Appt.	Attendances
Speech Therapy	Every Thursday and Friday from Sept., 1966		220
Child Welfare	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.	2,123
Ante-Natal and Women's Welfare	Every Wednesday	10 a.m.	155
School Clinic	Every Tuesday	10 a.m.	238
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	Every Tuesday and 1st Friday	(By Appt.)	
Dental Clinic	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	10 a.m.	2,400
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation	1st Friday	3 p.m.	

Bocking—Village Hall.

Child Welfare	4th Thursday	2 p.m.	228
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(ii) **Home Help Service**:—

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office, 75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) **Ambulance Service**:—

The Ambulance Station is situated in Cressing Road, Braintree. A full 24 hour cover is provided.

(iv) **Laboratory Services**:—

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents, the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board:—

(i) **Chest Clinics**:—

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	23	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	4	—	—
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	3	1	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	4	—	—
Totals ...	35	2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

Diseases	At all Ages	under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and Over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	1	6	4	—	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	23	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	35	3	2	6	5	2	10	3	—	1	—	2	1	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

Diseases	Total Notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	23	—	—	—	—	1	6	2	10	2	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	4	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	35	—	5	1	—	2	7	2	11	3	1	1	2

TUBERCULOSIS

		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 9	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 - 14	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 19	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 - 34	.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 44	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 64	.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—

Of these, two were cases re-notified on taking up residence in the District during 1966.

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION

PRIMARY COURSES				BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS		BY COUNTY STAFF	TOTALS
Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus				...	237	37	274
Diphtheria & Tetanus				...	5	11	16
Diphtheria				...	—	—	—
Pertussis				...	—	—	—
Tetanus				...	4	35	39
Poliomyelitis				...	260	64	324
Smallpox				...	143	—	143
Quadrulin				...	—	—	—
B.C.G.				...	—	358	358
REINFORCING DOSES							
Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus				...	112	1	113
Diphtheria & Tetanus				...	64	73	137
Diphtheria				...	1	40	41
Pertussis				...	—	—	—
Tetanus				...	7	41	48
Poliomyelitis				...	92	99	191
Smallpox				...	15	—	15

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

During 1966 the majority of the water was obtained from the Codham borehole and the remainder from the Notley Road borehole. These being the only sources of water distributed during the year.

All the water was chlorinated before passing into the mains and none is liable to have a plumbo-solvent action. In addition aeration, filtration and softening are carried out which ensures a water of an acceptable quality as can be seen in the following reports.

The number of samples submitted during the year for bacteriological examination was as follows:-

	Raw Water	Water in Supply	Total
Codham Borehole	6	6	12
Notley Road Works	1	—	1
Private Supplies	1	—	1

All the Samples were reported upon as being satisfactory.

Samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and typical results of the samples were given as follows:-

Sample from Braintree Waterworks: 26.4.66

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a slight deposit	Turbidity	less than 3
Colour Filtered: ... 6	Odour	Nil
pH 8.1	Free Carbon Dioxide ...	4
Electric Conductivity ... 1700	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	1095
Chlorine present as Chloride 395	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	275
Hardness: Total 130	Nitrite Nitrogen	absent
Carbonate 130	Oxygen Absorbed	0.20
Non-Carbonate 0	Metals: Iron	1.1
Nitrate Nitrogen 0.2	Zinc, Copper, Lead: ...	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... 0.80		
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... 0.03		

This sample shows faint opalescence and a deposit, largely due to its appreciable content of iron. The water is free from other metals. Its reaction is on the alkaline side of neutrality. Its hardness is very moderate and its somewhat high content of mineral and saline constituents is not considered excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity. The presence of ammoniacal nitrogen is typical of this and many other deep borehole waters.

These results indicate a wholesome water. The content of iron in the sample would however have obvious disadvantages in a public supply.

Samples from Codham Borehole: before treatment 1.3.66

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Opalescent with a red-brown deposit. Microscopical examination: Mineral particles	Turbidity	8
Colour	Odour	Nil
pH	Free Carbon Dioxide	26
Electric Conductivity	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	620
Chlorine present as Chloride	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	285
Hardness: Total	Nitrite Nitrogen less than	0.01
Carbonate	Oxygen Absorbed	0.10
Non-carbonate	Residual Chlorine	...
Nitrate Nitrogen	Metals: Iron	1.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Zinc, Copper, Lead	absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen		

This sample shows opalescence and deposit associated with the substantial trace of iron which is present. The water is neutral in reaction. It is very hard in character but otherwise contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water, very suitable for treatment for public supply purposes.

Sample from Codham Borehole: after treatment 1.3.66

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Bright with a few particles	Turbidity	less than 3
Colour	Odour	Nil
pH	Free Carbon Dioxide	absent
Electric Conductivity	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	510
Chlorine present as Chloride	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	140
Hardness: Total	Nitrite Nitrogen	absent
Carbonate	Oxygen Absorbed	0.20
Non-carbonate	Residual Chlorine	0.05
Nitrate Nitrogen	Metals: Iron, Copper, Zinc, Lead	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen		
Albuminoid Nitrogen		

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is moderately hard in character and contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

The water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

WATER CONSUMPTION IN THE DISTRICT

The amount of water pumped during 1966:—

Notley Road Waterworks	29,556,400
Codham Borehole	282,482,000
Total	<u>312,038,400</u>

I am indebted to the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer for the above figures.

Based on the total population of 21,720 and allowing for 120 persons occupying 40 houses who do not obtain a supply from the public mains, these figures represent an overall consumption of 39.6 gallons per head per day. The amount of water supplied through meters for trade and agricultural purposes was 70,282,074, equivalent to 8.9 gallons per head per day, leaving a net consumption per head per day of 30.7 gallons for domestic purposes.

The total amount of water distributed was $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ more than in 1965, an increase in consumption of some 13 million gallons. This is quite normal allowing for the increase in population and a slightly higher daily consumption.

It is estimated that 21,600 persons who occupy 7,522 houses are served by public mains. Of these 9 houses with an estimated population of 27 are served by 6 standpipes situated in the open.

There are 40 houses with private supplies, 35 of which are piped inside.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I understand from the Surveyor that delay has been experienced in the completion of the improvements to the Bocking Sewage Works and while the works are in full and effective operation the means of sludge treatment and the land treatment areas are not yet finished.

Eleven samples of the final effluent of the Braintree Sewage Works were taken by the inspectors of the Essex River Authority.

Two of the samples were reported as satisfactory, three as of unsatisfactory suspended solids and the remainder as unsatisfactory.

In addition a further nineteen samples were taken at varying stages to show the degree of purification.

At Bocking Works five samples were taken, three of which were satisfactory and the others unsatisfactory only with regard to suspended solids. The completion and use of the land treatment areas will result in an improvement in this respect.

The Sewage works are adequate for the present needs of the district but to allow for future expansion a scheme is to be prepared to extend the Braintree Works.

Three houses previously using pail closets have been renovated and converted to two houses, bathrooms and water closets installed and connected to cesspools.

Due to progress in the clearance programme 2 houses sharing 1 water closet no longer share. At a further 2 houses sharing 1 water closet bathrooms have been built and the water closet is no longer shared.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

(1) Number and Nature of Inspections.

During the year 1966 the following inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors to the premises detailed:—

Nature of Inspections	Primary Inspections	Revisits	Total Visits
Housing—Housing Act	44	58	102
Housing—Public Health Act	30	57	87
Other Visits—Housing Act	55	8	63
Other Visits—Public Health Act	153	125	278
Improvement Grants	62	271	333
Water Supply	28	3	31
Water Sampling	21	—	21
Notifiable Diseases	6	—	6
Food and Drugs Act	41	11	52
Food Hygiene Regulations	110	32	142
Ice Cream Premises	7	—	7
Ice Cream Sampling	14	—	14
Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations	57	20	77
Slaughterhouse Cruelty Regulations	35	5	40
Meat and Food Inspection :—			
(a) Slaughterhouses	3928	7	3935
(b) Shops	82	2	84
(c) Markets	202	—	202
Factories Act (Power)	6	5	11
Factories Act (Non-Power)	1	—	1
Factories Act (Building Sites)	15	4	19
Shops Act	18	17	35
Barber Shops	2	—	2
Drainage	110	47	157
Atmospheric Pollution	20	—	20
Overcrowding	2	—	2
Caravan Sites	18	19	37
Vermin and Insect Pests	32	7	39
Rat Infestations	56	8	64
Interviews Owners/Builders	100	—	100
Knackers' Yard	13	—	13
Swimming Baths	59	—	59
Swimming Baths, Sampling	10	—	10
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	64	174	238
Noise Abatement Act	9	25	34
Bacteriological Food Samples	10	—	10
Riding Establishments Act	1	3	4
Miscellaneous	137	1	138
Totals	5558	909	6467

(2) NOTICES

Sanitary Defects and Nuisances				Defects etc.	Work done
(a)	HOUSING			Found	or Abated
	Defective roofs, rainwater pipes, etc.	...		15	16
	Other external defects	...		6	1
	Damp walls	...	...	8	5
	Internal defects	...	...	18	5
	Defective sinks	...	...	1	1
(b)	DRAINAGE				
	Choked drains and W.C.'s	...	...	94	94
	Defective drains	...	...	—	1
	Defective soil pipes or vents	...	...	1	1
	New drains tested and passed	...	...	—	1
	Old drains tested	...	...	—	7
(c)	GENERAL				
	Defective W.C.'s and W.C. structures	...	...	5	2
	Houses with defective dustbins	...	...	6	5
	Contraventions of the Shops Act	...	...	1	4
	Other nuisances	...	...	1	—
	Contravention of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	48	134
				NOTICES SERVED	NOTICES ABATED
INFORMAL				50	73

HOUSING

One hundred and thirteen houses were completed by the Council during 1966 and a further two hundred and twenty privately.

Individual Unfit Houses

Demolition orders were made on nine houses and undertakings not to let in lieu of Demolition Orders were accepted in respect of four houses and six houses subjects of Demolition Orders, were demolished during the year.

Clearance Areas

Four houses subject to a clearance order were demolished.

Re-Housing

Fourteen families were re-housed from houses subject to clearance orders, demolition orders and undertakings in 1966.

Repair of Houses

Twenty houses were made fit as a result of informal action under the Housing Act and Public Health Act.

Improvement Grants

During the year there were fifty-six applications for improvement grants. Sixteen Discretionary Grants for improving houses and forty Standard Grants were made.

The Council approved a total of £5,034 for Discretionary Grants and a maximum of £4,490 for Standard Grants. This amounted to an annual charge on the rates of £117 for Discretionary Grants and a maximum of £105 for Standard Grants.

Following applications by two of their tenants for the Council to use their powers of compulsory improvement the owners of a group of houses have submitted application for improvement grants for eight houses.

After a similar application by three tenants the owner requested the Council to purchase the houses and the matter was referred to the District Valuer for negotiation. Agreement could not be reached and the Council decided to proceed with the compulsory improvement of these houses.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

During the year a total of 238 visits were carried out to various premises and, whilst the tempo of inspection has slowed, it is felt that progress is satisfactory as almost all the registered premises have received a general inspection.

A willingness by occupiers to implement the various provisions of the Act has been noted, a period of consolidation has been reached and, when the outstanding contraventions have been remedied, it is hoped to continue with a systematic round of general inspection. A further 48 contraventions were found and 134 were remedied.

Only a few accidents have been notified, all, fortunately, of a minor nature. No applications for exemption were received and no prosecutions were instituted.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered During Year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Number of Registered Premises Receiving General Inspection	Number of Persons employed
Offices	3	62	2	458
Retail Shops	9	133	15	723
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	8	2	77
Catering Establish- ments open to the Public & Canteens	—	16	3	87
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—
Total	13	219	22	1345
			Total Males	540
			Total Females	805

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

(I) INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority ...	7	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	85	11	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	37	19	1	—
Total ...	129	31	3	—

(II) Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	3	—	—	1	—

Outworkers

There are ten outworkers in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. No contraventions of Sections 133 and 134 were observed.

Shops' Act

Thirty-five visits were recorded to various shops under this Act and occupiers notified of contraventions. Shops inspected under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act are not included in this section unless a contravention of the Shops Act is found.

An application was made for the Council to make an order to waive the early closing day in one particular class of shop.

Atmospheric Pollution

The daily volumetric smoke and sulphur instrument continued to operate as part of the National Survey.

One application for the approval of the installation of a boiler under the Clean Air Act was made and granted.

Moveable Dwellings

Two permanent sites and one holiday site were licensed during the year together with a single caravan on Council owned land which does not require a licence. Of the permanent sites one is for a single caravan.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are two open air pools and two open air school instruction pools in the district. The Sun Lido was not open for use during the year.

Fifty-nine visits were made to the pools when field tests for available chlorine were made, samples taken and advice given where necessary.

Number of samples submitted during the year was as follows:—

							Bacteriological
Council Baths							
Main Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tabor Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Alec Hunter School Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
John Bunyan School Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

All the samples were reported upon as being satisfactory.

The Council pool is opened for special instruction sessions for school children from Braintree and surrounding areas.

Insect Pests

The occupiers of private slaughterhouses were advised and assisted regarding fly control and premises were kept under surveillance.

Advice and assistance were also given to occupiers regarding ants, bugs, crickets, cockroaches, fleas and other pests in respect of 19 premises. In addition the Rodent Operator dealt with 28 wasps nests.

Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

The licence for one plant for the sterilization of waste foods operating in the area was renewed during the year.

Steam Disinfector

This apparatus was not used during the year.

Riding Establishments Act, 1964

One application to keep riding stables was received but following an adverse report from a veterinary surgeon, a licence was not issued.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two licences to keep pet shops were renewed during the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

One licence to keep a cattery was issued.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

Two dealers were registered in accordance with this act during the year.

Rodent Control

The services of a full-time operator were again shared with neighbouring authorities.

The work done during the year was as follows:—

Total Number of inspections and re-inspections	...	...	1526
Number of properties found to be infested and treated:—			
Major	...	...	13
Minor	...	...	396
Mice	...	...	46
Number of block control schemes carried out	...	...	11

During the period covered by this report your Council continued the free treatment of domestic premises and the treatment of business premises upon a chargeable basis.

A 10% test of the sewers was made with a satisfactory result no takes being recorded.

Legal Proceedings

No legal proceedings were instituted.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the year four cases of foreign bodies in food and five cases of food unfit for human consumption were dealt with informally.

Ice Cream

Two local manufacturers and their premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream and one premises was registered for the manufacture and sale of soft ice cream.

Seventy certificates of registration were in force covering vendors of ice cream retailing from shops and mobile vans in the area. A few vendors registered elsewhere in the County of Essex also operate in the Council's district.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue reduction tests with the following results:—

Manufactured in District	Manufactured Outside the District
Six in Provisional Grade I	Two in Provisional Grade I
Nil in Provisional Grade II	Two in Provisional Grade II
One In Provisional Grade III	Two in Provisional Grade III
One in Provisional Grade IV	Nil in Provisional Grade IV

The number of samples was slightly lower than last year due mainly to one of the local manufacturers not making any ice cream.

Where the samples fell in grades III and IV attention of the manufacturers was drawn to the lower quality and improvements were effected.

Meat

All animals, including horses, slaughtered in the Council's area were inspected.

Throughout the year the Council made a charge for the inspection of all meat in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, and each carcase was stamped.

Consideration was given to the fixing of hours of slaughter, the trade consulted, and agreed hours will come into effect during 1967.

Horse flesh slaughtered for human consumption in the Urban District is sold outside the Council's area.

The following sets out the particulars of animals slaughtered and of inspections and condemnations during the year:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed ...	3,613	302	49	4,886	27,011	918
Number Inspected ...	3,613	302	49	4,886	27,011	918
All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis:—						
Whole carcasses						
Condemned ...	2	3	1	4	14	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	770	873	52	218	1,142	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	374	108	13	90	1,721	33
Weight in lb. condemned ...	4,925	1,770	127	265	5,952	588
Percentage affected ...	10.4	36.8	28.6	1.9	6.4	3.6
Tuberculosis only:—						
Whole carcasses						
condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	70	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	—	—	—	—	375	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	3,628	—
Percentage affected ...	—	—	—	—	1.4	—
Cysticercosis:—						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration ...						
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...						
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Each slaughterhouse occupier was responsible for the satisfactory disposal of all condemned meat and offal. Supervision by your inspectors ensured that this method provided adequate safeguards to Public Health.

Slaughter of Animals Act

Twenty-one licences to act as a slaughterman were renewed during the year, four of these licences were extended to include the slaughter of horses.

Two new applications were granted subject to probationary period of six months.

Other Foods

As a result of inspections carried out at food shops and food preparing premises in the district, the following items were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

Tinned Ham & Pork				Tinned Ox Tongue ...	6
Shoulder ...	161			Tinned Corned Beef	39
Tinned Chopped Pork	12			Tinned Jellied Veal ...	10
Tinned Luncheon Meat	40			Tinned Fish ...	5
Tinned Stewing Steak	3			Tinned Peas ...	46
Tinned Tomatoes ...	75			Tinned Pears ...	74
Tinned Vegetables ...	33			Tinned Fruit Juice ...	33
Tinned Apricots ...	32			Tinned Pineapple ...	161
Tinned Peaches ...	298			Cheese ...	86
Frozen Foods ...	806			Tinned Milk ...	10
Tinned Fruit ...	385			Jam ...	22
Sugar ...	84			Pork ...	145
Beef ...	1166			Pork Sausages ...	38
Lamb ...	47			Miscellaneous ...	308
Fish ...	24				

Total—4149lb.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

During the year a total of 142 visits were made under these regulations.

Details of contraventions found and remedied as follows:—

Regulations				Contraventions	
				Found	Remedied
14.	Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	3	—
16.	Wash Hand Basins	...	...	3	—
17.	First Aid Materials	...	...	1	—
19.	Provision of Sinks	...	...	—	1
21.	Ventilation of Food Rooms	...	...	1	1
23.	Cleanliness and repair of Food Rooms	...	...	3	2
24.	Refuse Accommodation	...	...	2	3

Food shops inspected under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act are not recorded here unless a contravention is found of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

These regulations which come into force on the 1st January, 1967, give further hygienic control over markets, stalls and delivery vehicles.

They extend the existing regulations and deal with cleanliness of stalls and equipment, hygienic handling of food, personal cleanliness, the provision of water supply and washing facilities and the proper disposal of waste. They also include provision whereby traders can obtain exemption from some of the regulations.

Food Premises

The number of premises totalling 199 where food is prepared, stored or retailed is as follows:—

Type of Premises	Number of Premises	Number fitted to comply with Reg- ulation 16	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number fitted to Comply with Reg- ulation 19
Hotels and Licensed Premises	49	49	49	49
Restaurants (including snack bars)	12	12	12	12
Works canteens	10	10	10	10
School Canteens	11	11	11	11
Butchers	15	15	15	15
Slaughterhouses	5	5	5	5
Food Manufacturing Premises	2	2	2	2
Wet and Dried Fish Shops ...	8	8	7	7
Ice Cream Manufacturers ...	2	2	2	2
Dairies and Milk Distributors	4	4	—	3
Grocers	41	41	41	41
Greengrocers	8	8	8	8
Bakehouses	8	8	8	8
Bread and Cake Confectioners	4	4	4	4
Other Food Shops	15	15	9	9
Hospitals, etc.	5	5	5	5

Of these numbers, shops dealing with more than one of these items are classified once.

Sampling of Food and Drugs

The provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to the sampling of food and drugs are administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the Essex County Council. The Chief Inspector of that department has kindly supplied the following details of the samples taken during the year:—

Beverages	1	Bread	2
Canned Fruit	1	Cereal Products	3
Cooked Meat	1	Cornflour	1
Custard Powder	1	Dried Vegetables	1
Flavouring Essences	1	Lard and Oils	1
Marzipan	1	Peel	1
Pickles	1	Rice	1
Salad Cream	1	Sauces	1
Suet	1	Tinned Meat	1
Tinned Vegetables	7	Tomato Ketchup	1
Milk	17		

Total — 46 Samples

All the samples were satisfactorily reported upon.

